

November 18, 2003

Mr. Michael Balduzzi  
Site Vice President  
Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.  
Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station  
600 Rocky Hill Road  
Plymouth, MA 02360-5508

SUBJECT: PILGRIM NUCLEAR POWER STATION OPERATOR AND SENIOR REACTOR  
OPERATOR INITIAL EXAMINATION REPORT NO. 05000293/2003-301

Dear Mr. Balduzzi:

This report transmits the results of the reactor operator (RO) and senior reactor operator (SRO) licensing examination conducted by the NRC during the period of September 29 to October 2, 2003. This examination addressed areas important to public health and safety and was developed and administered using the guidelines of the "Examination Standards for Power Reactors" (NUREG-1021, Draft Revision 9).

Based on the results of the examination, seven SRO and three RO applicants passed all portions of the examination. Examination results indicated that the applicants were well prepared for the examination. On November 4, 2003, the NRC provided final examination results, including individual license numbers, during a telephone call between Mr. R. Conte and Mr. V. Fallacara and others of your staff. No findings of significance were identified.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). These records include the final examination and are available in ADAMS RO and SRO Written - Accession Number ML032880228; RO and SRO Operating Section A - Accession Number ML033160296; and RO and SRO Operating Section B - Accession Number ML033160298, and RO and SRO Operating Section C- Accession Number ML032880234. ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Should you have any questions regarding this examination, please contact me at (610) 337-5183, or by E-mail at [RJC@NRC.GOV](mailto:RJC@NRC.GOV).

Sincerely,

/RA/

Richard J. Conte, Chief  
Operational Safety Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket No. 50-293  
License No. DPR-35

Enclosure: Initial Examination Report No. 05000293/2003-301  
w/Attachment

cc w/encl:

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M. Kansler, President, Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.  
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W. Raymond, SRI - Pilgrim

J. White, INPO ([whitejl@Inpo.org](mailto:whitejl@Inpo.org))

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U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION I

Docket No: 50-293

License No: DPR-35

Report No: 05000293/2003-301

Licensee: Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.

Facility: Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station

Dates: September 29 - October 2, 2003 (Operating Test Administration)  
October 3, 2003 (Written Examination Administration)  
October 6-15, 2003 (Examination Grading/Evaluation)  
October 27, 2003 (Security Agreements Completed)

Examiners: T. Fish, Sr. Operations Engineer (Chief Examiner)  
J. Laughlin, Operations Engineer  
H. Williams, Operations Engineer

Approved by: Richard J. Conte, Chief  
Operational Safety Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

Enclosure

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

IR 05000293/2003-301; September 29 - October 2, 2003; Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station; Initial Operator Licensing Examination; Ten of ten applicants passed the examination (3 ROs and 7 SRO instants).

The written examinations were administered by the facility and the operating tests were administered by three NRC region-based examiners.

A. Inspector Identified Findings

No findings of significance were identified.

B. Licensee Identified Findings

None.

## Report Details

### **1. REACTOR SAFETY**

#### Mitigating Systems - Reactor Operator (RO) and Senior Reactor Operator (SRO) Initial License Examination

##### **a. Scope of Review**

The licensee's examination team developed the written and operating initial examinations and together with NRC personnel verified or ensured, as applicable, the following:

- The examination was prepared and developed in accordance with the guidelines of Draft Revision 9 of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors." A review was conducted both in the Region I office and at the Pilgrim plant and training facility. Final resolution of comments and incorporation of test revisions were conducted during and following the onsite preparation week.
- Simulation facility operation was proper.
- A test item analysis was completed on the written examination for feedback into the systems approach to training program.
- Examination security requirements were met.

The NRC examiners administered the operating portion of the examination to all applicants from September 29 - October 2, 2003. Pilgrim training staff administered the written examination on October 3, 2003.

##### **b. Findings**

#### Grading and Results

All applicants (7 SROs and 3 ROs) passed all portions of the initial licensing examination.

#### Examination Preparation and Quality

The quality of the draft examinations was within acceptable range.

#### Examination Administration and Performance

NRC examiners noted no generic performance weaknesses exhibited by the applicants during examination administration.

### **4. OTHER ACTIVITIES**

4OA6 Meetings, including Exit

The examination period was from September 29 - October 2, 2003 and an interim exit meeting was conducted on site October 2. Grading and evaluation of post examination comments occurred from October 6 - 15, 2003. The Security Agreements were completed October 27, 2003. On November 4, 2003, the NRC provided conclusions and examination results to Mr. V. Fallacara and other Pilgrim training staff, via telephone. License numbers for the ten applicants were also provided during this time.

The NRC expressed appreciation for the cooperation and assistance that was provided during the preparation and administration of the examination by the licensee's training staff.

Enclosure

**Attachment 1**

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**

**KEY POINTS OF CONTACT**

**LICENSEE**

V. Fallacara, Training Manager  
M. Santiago, Operations Training Manager  
S. Willoughby, Nuclear Operations Training Supervisor  
M. Giardowski, Facility Exam Contact

**LIST OF ITEMS OPENED, CLOSED, AND DISCUSSED**

None